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REMARKS

In the above referenced Office Action, claims 22-29 were rejected under 35 USC 103. Applicant respectfully traverses the merits of this rejection. In addition, Applicant asserts that the presently claimed invention was conceived prior to the earliest effective date of the earliest cited reference (Linder et al., October of 1999).

Included herewith is a Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 Antedating a Reference signed by the inventors attesting to the fact that the invention was conceived of and initially documented prior to October of 1999. As such, the references are antedated and the rejections obviated. Applicant respectfully asserts that the present claims are in condition of for allowance and requests notice of the same. Should any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to expedite prosecution. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 13-2546.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 16, 2006

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